

[23 November, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

GQ Completion Schedule:

-By December, 2006

95%

**Inter-connecting village health-care Centres**

226. MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

SHRI B.J. PANDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether ISRO propose to inter-connect village health-care Centres in the country with the top-notch medical facilities in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is action plan under the above project to connect village healthcare Centres with district hospitals in Orissa State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) As part of application of space technology for the societal development, ISRO has taken up Tele-medicine initiative linking health Centres and hospitals in remote and rural areas to specialist medical facilities available in urban areas. Currently 148 rural/ district hospitals including 5 mobile medical units are connected to 34 specialty medical Centres.

(c) In the State of Orissa, currently, three Medical College Hospitals at Cuttack, Bulla and Behrampur have been provided with Tele-medicine facilities. Further, installation of Tele-medicine systems are in progress in 5 District hospitals of Kalahandi, Koraput, Sundergarh, Mayurbhanj and Kurda. Tele-medicine facilities are planned to be extended to 37 village clusters in 15 districts of the Orissa State under the Village Resource Centre programme.

**Rate of employment and unemployment rural *vis-a-vis* urban areas**

227. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the 61 st Round of Employment